

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, line 1, change the title to read:

-- METHOD OF MAKING INK JET RECORDING MEDIA --

Please enter the following amended paragraph which begins at Page 2, line 19:

U.S. Patent No. 4,877,686, for example, discloses a coating comprised of one or more absorbent fillers dispersed in a binder comprised of fully or completely hydrolyzed polyvinyl alcohol,⁴ and utilizing boric acid and/or its derivatives as a jelling or coagulating agent for the polyvinyl alcohol. (Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., a manufacturer of polyvinyl alcohol (PVOH), in its U.S. Patent NO. 4,343,133, column 1, line 56 to column 2, line 18, defines “fully hydrolyzed” PVOH as being 95-99% hydrolyzed and defines “partially hydrolyzed” PVOH as being 80-95% hydrolyzed. Partially hydrolyzed PVOH actually comprises a co-polymer of polyvinyl alcohol and polyvinyl acetate.) According to the disclosure of Patent 4,877,686, the boric acid may be incorporated in the base sheet, or applied as a coating to the base sheet, or incorporated in the absorbent filler/PVOH coating composition. In the latter instance, it is said that the boric acid must be deactivated before

⁴Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., a manufacturer of polyvinyl alcohol (PVOH), in its U.S. Patent NO. 4,343,133, column 1, line 56 to column 2, line 18, defines “fully hydrolyzed” PVOH as being 95-99% hydrolyzed and defines “partially hydrolyzed” PVOH as being 80-95% hydrolyzed. Partially hydrolyzed PVOH actually comprises a co-polymer of polyvinyl alcohol and polyvinyl acetate.

application to the substrate and reactivated upon application, inasmuch as the gelling of the binder has to take place during the coating operation and not before.

Please delete the footnote at the bottom of Page 3.

Please enter the following amended paragraph which begins at Page 7, lines 3:

For a high grade ink jet product of near-photographic print quality, the base sheet may, for example, be a high quality, high gloss, heavy-weight enamel printing paper, triple coated and supercalendered both sides, and having a basis weight of 90 80 to 100 pounds per 3,000 square feet ream (140 120 – 160 grams per square meter). A good example is Stora Enso North America's "CENTURA Gloss" one-hundred pound printing paper.

Please enter the following amended paragraph which begins at Page 7, line 16:

A presently preferred base sheet for an economy grade ink jet medium of high quality is made from a pulp stock or furnish comprised of an aqueous solution containing, by weight, about 50 parts softwood Kraft pulp, about 50 parts hardwood Kraft pulp, about 25 parts paper mill broke (which consists of about 80% fibers and about 20% fillers), about 0.25 to about 2.0% preferably about 0.75 to 1.5%, rosin size, such as Georgia Pacific Chemicals "Nova Plus" size, and from about 0.25 to about 1.5%, preferably about 0.5 to 0.75%, of one or more wet strength additives such, for example, as Georgia Pacific Chemicals "AMRES" PR 355 CU urea formaldehyde. A preferred additional additive is cationic starch, e.g., about 0.25% cationic starch.

Please enter the following amended paragraph which begins at Page 11, line 18:

One preferred formulation for the coating is comprised, by weight, of 96.25 parts Airvol 805 PVOH, 3.75 parts boric acid, 0.5 parts Berset 2040 glyoxal immobilizer, and 1.0 part 261LV polymer dispersed in water at a solids content of about twenty percent.

Please enter the following amended paragraph which begins at Page 12, line 19:

A preferred ratio of constituents in the cook is comprised by weight of from about 70 to about 90 percent, preferably about 79 percent, make-down water, from about 10 to about 30 percent, preferably about 20 percent, PVOH, and from about 0.25 to about 2.0 percent, preferably about 0.75 percent, boric acid. The preferred ratios produce a mixture containing about 20-21 percent solids, with the solids comprised of about 96.25 percent PVOH and about 3.75 percent boric acid.

Please enter the following amended paragraph which begins at Page 13, line 4:

The cooked mixture above-described may be coated neat onto a web of base-sheet paper or, prior to coating, it may be and preferably is supplemented with an insolubilizer/immobilizer and/or a cationic or conductive polymer. In a presently preferred embodiment, the coating composition or formulation is comprised by weight of from about

92 to about 100 parts, preferably about 98.5 parts, of the cooked mixture, from about 0.25 to about 1.0 parts, preferably about 0.5 parts, immobilizer at 40 percent solids and from about 0.5 to about 5 parts, preferably about 1.0 parts, cationic polymer at 40 percent solids.

Please enter the following amended paragraph which begins on Page 15, line 5:

To meet more demanding standards for even higher quality ink jet recording media, an intermediate pigmented coating may prove advantageous. The pigmented coating would preferably contain fifty percent or more by weight of calcined clay as the pigmentation, and protein and/or latex as the binder. A recommended coating is disclosed in commonly owned co-pending application Serial No. 09/838,480, filed April 19, 2001, entitled "High Gloss Ink Jet Recording Media."

Please enter the following amended paragraph which begins at Page 16, line 10:

An ink jet receiver coating was prepared, comprising by weight 96.25 parts partially hydrolyzed Airvol 805 polyvinyl alcohol cooked in the presence of 3.75 parts boric acid at 20% solids in water. The cooking temperature was 95° C. (203°F.) After cooling, the remainder of the coating ingredients were added; specifically, to 100 bone dry parts of the cooked material was added 0.5 parts of Bercen's Berset 2040 glyoxal immobilizer, and 1.0 parts of Nalco's Conductive Resin 261 LV. Final solids was 20% in water.